The world is filled with living things and non-living things. Plants and animals are living things. Plants need air, water, light, nutrients, space and temperature to survive. Animals need air, food, water, shelter and space. Living things are able to reproduce and create more of themselves.

Non-living things do not grow or reproduce.

organism

A single living thing is called an **organism**. An organism is capable of growing and reproducing. A dandelion, a tree, an insect, a frog, a fish, a coyote, a boy and a girl are a few examples of organisms.

it's not alive!

The world is also filled with non-living things.

Non-living things are not made up of living cells. A non-living thing cannot grow or create more of itself or reproduce. Sunlight, air, rocks, temperature, water and landforms (hills, valleys, mountains) are all examples of non-living things that are not alive but are important for survival of organisms.

Organisms also need soil to survive. Soil is made from tiny pieces of broken rock (non-living) and small bits of dead plants and animals (living). Soil also has water and air (non-living). Living things (some too small to see without a microscope) live in soil.

Cottontail rabbits are able to reproduce when they're about 5 months old.

A dandelion is one organism with many tiny flowers bunched together. After a dandelion blooms, each of its tiny flowers produces a seed.

A human is an organism.
Populations of humans can be found nearly everywhere in the world.

